necessary emergency arrangements to evacuate Indian nationals from Iraq and its neighbouring countries in case of US-Iraq war; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Yes.

(b) The Indian community in Iraq at present comprises some 50 persons. They have been advised to keep their travel documents ready for exit through Jordan, Syria or Iran at short notice. While a possible US-Iraq war is unlikely to affect the large India's communities in the neighbouring countries of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, contingency plans have been made to evacuate India's nationals as necesary.

Global panel of terrorism hit countries

254. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ARBRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has recently proposed setting up of a global panel of countries most affected by terrorism for sharing and devising methods to tackle the menace at a meeting of Interpol officials from various countries based in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) A suggestion in this regard was mooted in a meeting of the Interpol at the working level. However, no definitive proposal has been made by the Government in this regard.

Foreign students registration system in U.S.A.

255. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian students, who wish to go to U.S.A. after January 30, 2003, have to go through the new Foreign Students Registration System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System Registration is going to become mandatory for the Indians going to U.S.A. for study; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) to (d) According to information released by the U.S. Government, all educational institutions and exchange visitor programme sponsors in the United States have been directed that, from 30 January, 2003, documents issued by them to enable students to apply for visa must be created within the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) for the purpose of electronic verification of prospective student and exchange visitor status of the applicants. This requirement is for academic institutions and sponsors in the United States, not the students, and has to be fulfilled for students from all countries.

Differences over infiltration from Bangladesh

256. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that difference of opinion has arisen between Government and the Government of Bangladesh over the question of illegal infiltration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken up this with the Government of Bangladesh at their diplomatic/political level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) to (d) The Government of India is seriously concerned about large scale, illegal cross border movement from Bangladesh to India. Though India has taken up the issue of illegal migration including, *inter alia*, the issue of repatriation of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh with the Government of Bangladesh regularly, the Government of Bangladesh has denied that illegal migration from Bangladesh into India is taking place.